
CES-YOUTH AND ADULT PROGRAMS

MISSION

The Durham County Center of NC Cooperative Extension helps individuals, families and communities use research- based knowledge and county resources to help improve the quality of their lives.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Extension is a cooperative effort of County Government, North Carolina State University, and the Federal government to provide educational programs that address local issues. Educational programs are delivered at the County Center as well as in the community.

The program focus includes agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer education, youth leadership and life skill development, and community outreach and leadership development. Programs and activities are open to the public. Collaborative efforts with other County agencies, City government and non-profits allow the organization to leverage the educational expertise of the staff and the University in a manner that allows the Center to serve diverse populations of Durham County.

Programs include, but are not limited to: the Master Gardener Volunteer Hotline, Families First News, Serv-Safe Restaurant Certification, Pesticide Re-certification, Successful Gardener Series, Summer Youth Camps, Senior Health Insurance Information Program support and the Eastway Elementary School Family Resource Center.

2002-03 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Over 3200 homeowner, gardener and landscaper requests for information were addressed by the Master Gardener hotelmen.
- Landscapers, restaurant employees, restaurant managers and farmers completed certifications that enhanced employability in agribusiness or food service careers.
- Landscaper and Food Service certification classes and exams were offered citizens in Spanish.
- Over 650 individuals received information and assistance in eliminating household pests.
- Individuals received life-skills and job preparation training as a result of programs provided citizens in conjunction with the Department of Social Services, Criminal Justice

Resource Center and other Human Service agencies.

- 3500 youth participated in Kids Voting Program in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce
- Designs completed for building upgrade
- JCPC transition into Cooperative Extension

2003-04 OBJECTIVES

- Enhance the capability of the agencies housed in the Agricultural Building and community organizations to provide programs to citizens in a safe, accessible facility that is conducive to learning.
- Provide citizens with independent life skills and certification training that enhances consumer knowledge, employability and safety.
- Provide homeowners, landowners, and agribusinesses with research-based resources that protect the county's environment and enhance the economic or aesthetic value of property.
- Enhance leadership and citizenship youth development programs through partnerships with other organizations and funding agents.